

Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools is forming an inclusive group of youth leaders to represent their US State Program and Region as advocates, advisors and participants in leadership development training. Twelve youth leaders with and without intellectual disabilities aged 14 to 22 years old will serve as Youth Ambassadors for two years (September 2021 – August 2023) in a role focused on training, engagement and activation at the national level. The major areas of responsibility will include:

**Advocacy & Story-telling:** *Use their experience and voice to advocate for Special Olympics, Unified Champion Schools, and the sustainability/advancement of schools programming and inclusive youth leadership.*

**Advisory & Input:** *Contribute a monthly vlog addressing a given topic, participate in quarterly meeting with the larger group on local engagement and provide input on SONA resources and initiatives to capture the student/youth perspective and recommendations.*

**Professional Development:** *Youth Ambassadors will participate in several forms of internal and external trainings dedicated to leadership development, public speaking, and other related topics. Youth Ambassadors will mainly be participants in the first year in the role and will transition to providing training in the second year.*

Timeline for application and selection:

- Applications are due through the [link here](#) by July 2, 2021
- Nominees will be announced by SONA by August 6, 2021

1. Student/Unified pair Name(s):

- Student 1
- Student 2

2. Student/Unified pair Email(s):

- Student 1
- Student 2

3. Student/Unified pair School(s):

- Student 1
- Student 2

4. Student/Unified Pair Grade Level(s):

- Student 2
- Student 2

5. School Liaison/Mentor Name: (This can be a teacher, coach or Program staff who you have worked with before! They will be your mentor for the entire two year role.)

6. School Liaison/Mentor Role:

- Coach, Educator, Program Staff, UCS Staff Liaison, or Volunteer

7. School Liaison/Mentor Email:

8. School Liaison/Mentor Cell Phone:
9. Special Olympics State Program:
10. How many years have you been involved in the Special Olympics movement?
11. Student 1: Does your current school/local Special Olympics program offer Unified Sports?
12. Student 1: If yes, what sports?
13. Student 2: Does your current school/local Special Olympics program offer Unified Sports?
14. Student 2: If yes, what sports?
15. Do you play or coach on a Unified Sports team?
  - Student 1
  - Student 2
16. Student 1: What social media platforms do you use?
  - Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Twitter, Other
17. Student 2: What social media platforms do you use?
  - Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Twitter, Other
18. Student 1: Are you willing to use personal social media to promote Special Olympics?
19. Student 2: Are you willing to use personal social media to promote Special Olympics?
20. Provide an example of a time you used social media to promote an event, school function, or something similar. If you have not done so previously, describe how you would do so!
  - Student 1
  - Student 2
21. Student 1: How comfortable are you recording vlogs?
  - Very comfortable, have recorded vlogs in the past
  - Comfortable, understand the process
  - Have never done, but willing to learn
  - Uncomfortable with this task
22. Student 2: How comfortable are you recording vlogs?
  - Very comfortable, have recorded vlogs in the past
  - Comfortable, understand the process
  - Have never done, but willing to learn
  - Uncomfortable with this task

23. STUDENT 1: What Special Olympics roles have you held before?

- Coach, Event Volunteer, Event Organizer, Fans in the Stands, Fundraiser, State Board Member, Teammate, Unified Club Member, Youth Activation Committee Member, Young Athletes Coach/Volunteer, Other

24. STUDENT 2: What Special Olympics roles have you held before?

- Coach, Event Volunteer, Event Organizer, Fans in the Stands, Fundraiser, State Board Member, Teammate, Unified Club Member, Youth Activation Committee Member, Young Athletes Coach/Volunteer, Other

25. Pick one of these roles and describe what you did!

- Student 1
- Student 2

26. Student 1: Select the personal/professional skills you have been trained in or feel comfortable with (choose as many as apply!)

- Adaptability, Communication – Public Speaking, Communication – Written, Communication – Listening, Photography, Planning/Organization, Problem Solving, Teamwork, Technology, Time Management

27. Student 2: Select the personal/professional skills you have been trained in or feel comfortable with (choose as many as apply!)

- Adaptability, Communication – Public Speaking, Communication – Written, Communication – Listening, Photography, Planning/Organization, Problem Solving, Teamwork, Technology, Time Management

28. Pick one of these skills and describe a time you put it in action!

- Student 1
- Student 2

29. What is your strongest leadership quality and how do you use it in your daily life?

- Student 1
- Student 2

30. In a few sentences, please share why inclusion is important to you and important to promote in your community.

- Student 1
- Student 2

31. In a few sentences, please share how you currently promote inclusion in your school and/or community.

- Student 1
- Student 2

32. How do you, or would you, use social media as a way to promote inclusion?

- Student 1
- Student 2

33. Please share your goals/expectations for this experience. If applying as pair, make sure both applicants answer

- Student 1
- Student 2

34. Feel free to use this space to share a unique story or if there is anything else that you would like to share about your experience as a student leader with Unified Champion Schools.

- Student 1
- Student 2

35. In order to apply for the U.S. Youth Ambassador role, you must have received permission from your State Program. Please list the full name and email address for the State Program staff member who has given you sign-off to apply for this role.

For any questions, please email Sara Prescott: [sprescott@specialolympics.org](mailto:sprescott@specialolympics.org).